

Cass County Weed Control Board
Cass County Weed Control Office
1201 West Main Ave, West Fargo
December 12, 2016

10:00 AM Meeting called to order
 Roll call of the members
 Approve minutes of previous meeting
 Approve order of agenda

Agenda

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|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Budget Report | |
| a. Monthly Financial Statements | Information/action |
| b. Approval of bills | Information/action |
| Unfinished Business | |
| a. Honda warranty | Information/action |
| | |
| 2. New Business | |
| a. NDWCA Conference | Information/action |
| b. NDWCA Membership | Information/action |
| c. Meeting Schedule | Information/action |
| d. Seasonal Field Aid | Information/action |
| e. LAP Application | Information/action |
| f. Drone Scouting | Information |
| g. Other | |
| | |
| 3. Monthly Progress Report | Information |
| | |
| 4. Upcoming events | Information |

For information on any of the agenda items or the need for special accommodations contact: Stan Wolf, 701-298-2388, wolfs@casscountynd.gov

Weed Control Progress Report

December 5, 2016

Period from Nov 14 to Dec 5, 2016

submitted by Stan Wolf

Agenda Items

Unfinished Business

Honda Extended Warranty: The discussion on purchasing the Honda Power Protection warranty was tabled at the last meeting. The Honda Power Protection warranty extends the full manufacture's warranty three years after the original warranty giving a total of four years of coverage, covering all components of the original warranty. The Pioneer 500 uses the motor and transmission components from the Foreman 500 which has proven its durability. Checking websites for customer reviews on durability no mechanical issues were noted even after 1300+ miles with the exception of some minor electrical connections with the electronic transmission gear shift. Checking with the local service shop the only items that have been an issue on the Foreman ATV have been the electric shifter motor and shift plate angle sensor which cost approx. \$300 to replace.

Proposed motion: Move to approve purchase of Honda Power Protection extended warranty in the amount of \$620.

New Business

NDWCA Conference: The North Dakota Weed Control Association will be conducting its annual conference on January 10, 11, and 12, 2017 at the Ramada Inn, Bismarck. The board has approved sending the weed officer to the conference in past years. The cost of registration is \$125.00 which includes conference meals. The motel room will cost \$80.10/night (state rate) totaling \$240.30 plus any appropriate fees.

Proposed motion: Move to approve sending Mr. Wolf to the NDWCA conference and paying \$125.00 for registration and accompanying motel costs.

NDWCA Membership: Cass County Weed Control has been a member of the North Dakota Weed Control Association every year since inception. The objectives of the NDWCA are: to provide leadership, education and awareness for weed management. To provide the liaison among city and county weed boards, weed officers, organizations and agencies with weed management programs. To assist the North Dakota Department of Agriculture in the development of effective and efficient weed management programs. To develop and promote appropriate legislation pertaining to weed management and to encourage and support research on weed problems. The cost of membership is \$275.00.

Proposed motion: Mover to approve renewal of NDWCA association membership of \$275.00.

Meeting Schedule: Every year we need to notify the Auditor's Office of our meeting dates to comply with the state open meeting law. The proposed meeting dates for 2017 are listed on the attached schedule. Please review schedule and advise for any changes.

Proposed motion: Move to approve the 2017 Weed Board meeting dates.

Seasonal Field Aid Requisition: Every year a summer field aid has been hired to assist the Weed Officer in scouting, mapping and controlling noxious and troublesome weeds. An additional consideration for hiring the field aid is safety when field operations are conducted in rough or remote areas. Having an additional individual in the area to quickly assist in the event of a sprayer upset is important to minimize environmental damage or to provide medical assistance if needed. To start the process, a Staff Requisition needs to be signed by the board then forwarded to the portfolio commissioner.

Proposed motion: Move to approve hiring a Summer Field Aid and sign the Staff Requisition.

LAP Application: An application for Landowner Assistance arrived at the office on November 21, postmarked November 19, 2016. The amount of the reimbursement is \$335.80. The deadline for submitting LAP applications was October 31.

Proposed motion: Move to approve LAP reimbursement of \$335.80.

Drone Scouting: Moore Engineering will present a video of using a drone to scout for weeds.

Monthly Report

Correspondence sent out: A letter was sent to Constellation Development denying its application for Landowner Assistance for the following reasons: the herbicide application did not control the weeds, the application was for more herbicide than the labeled rate, and the herbicide is not approved for the site. No response was received.

Correspondence received: A complaint letter was received on November 14, 2016 via email from a landowner living alongside I94. His complaint was regarding the ditch hay that was cut this summer and not baled due to heavy rains which flooded the ditch. The cut grass is still in the ditch and he feels that this could lead to plugged culverts which may cause flood waters to overtop his driveway.

Annual Weed Survey: The North Dakota Department of Agriculture requests all weed boards to complete an annual weed survey. The weeds and acres listed on the survey are

from the spray reports, surveys and weed complaints. The enclosed survey is included for your review before completion.

Research Paper: A recent article in Ag Professional titled *Duck Dynasty May Have Triggered a Weed Dynasty* describes a research project looking into the probability of migrating ducks and geese transporting live weed seeds which may introduce weeds into new areas.

County Commission Portfolio assignment: Commissioner Arland Rasmussen has been assigned to hold the Weed Control portfolio for 2017.

Upcoming Events:

RRVARC Research Partners
NDWCA Conference
Wild World of Weeds
Soil & Water Workshop
North Dakota Winter Show

December 15, Fargo
January 10-12, Bismarck
January 17, Fargo
January 18, Fargo
March 4-11, Valley City